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INTERIM

A REPORT OF INTERIM ACTIVITY . . . MONTANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL . . . HELENA

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NOVEMBER 1980

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS STUDY ASSIGNED

Under the leadership of Senator John H. Brown, the Economic Problems Study Committee, a statewide representative group that arises each time the Legislature is in session, the Legislative Council appointed a committee to consider various business problems as a result of the recently announced closure of the Argonne Company works in Anaconda and Butte cities.

Members of the subject subcommittee on Economic Problems are:

Senators	Representatives
Steve Brown	Dean Donelson
Harold Lewis	Tom Surpis
Pat Anderson	Chris Steen
Carroll Frisvold	Don Guillen

The first meeting of the committee has been scheduled for Friday, November 15, 1980, 10:00 a.m., Room 1005, State Capitol.

LEGISLATIVE INTERNS

At its November 11 meeting, the Legislative Council heard a presentation by the University of Montana, University of Montana, and Montana State University. Applications for legislative internships for the 1981-1982 Legislative Session will be made in the Council office by November 24. Interns will be chosen and assigned to legislative committees at the Council meeting on November 24.

STATE AGENCY STATUS ACCESS

The Council is reviewing a bill to give citizens access to the legislative calendar of the daily bill status during the legislative session via each member's office. The bill is being introduced into the system of the Legislative Council. The bill is being reviewed by the Council's procedural requirements.

The Legislative Council has announced that the computerized system for the bill status will be used.

expanded to include: sponsor, short title, fiscal note information, introduction date, committee-referred to, and hearing and executive session dates, committee actions; 2nd and 3rd reading votes; and date of action by Governor.

MONTANA CODE
PRINTING BID
AWARDED

The contract for printing the 1991 Montana Codes has been awarded to the W.W. Brown Company Publishers of Dubuque, Iowa. That company bid \$123,450 compared to a high bid of \$204,000 from an in-state printer. The closest bid by an in-state printer was \$10,000.

CODE
ANNOTATIONS
MAILED

The 5-volume sets of Annotations to the Montana Code were mailed from Logan on October 30. The mailing contains completed annotations to 29 out of 50 Titles. Annotations to an additional 17 Titles are expected to be mailed within the next 3 or 4 months.

LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENT

LEGISLATIVE
IMPROVEMENT
RECOMMENDATIONS
MADE

The Legislative Improvement Committee held its final meeting November 5. The Committee reviewed the recommendations made to date (reported in November 1979, March 1980, and October 1980 ISS1135). In addition the Committee adopted the following recommendations:

- (1) That in the future, the following legislative votes be spread upon the Journal: votes on adoption of a House committee reports, second reading votes, and votes on floor amendments.
- (2) That Third Reading be eliminated; that if a bill is amended in committee or the whole, when all proposed amendments to the bill have been acted upon, the bill will be automatically passed for the day, sent to printing to have the amendments incorporated, and the second reading vote taken the next day.

CAUCUS

CAUCUS
21 NOVEMBER

A pre-caucus orientation for all legislators will begin at 9:00 a.m., Colonial Inn, Helena (Legislative--Judicial room) on Friday, November 21, 1980. Senate majority leader Stan Stephens and House majority leader Ann Mary Hussault will present the recommendations of the Legislative Improvement Committee to the legislators at that time.

Following the orientation, the Senate Republicans

will caucus in the Capitol Club Room -- to discuss Republicans in the Colonial Room. The Senate Democrats will caucus in the Clark Room and the House Democrats in the Lewis Room. Lunch will be served to each separate caucus.

**ORIENTATION
22 NOVEMBER**

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 22, in the Legislative-Judicial Room there will be an orientation for all Legislators. Presentations will be made by Legislative Agency heads concerning services available to Legislators, including all printing. Information will be provided concerning legislative salary and benefits and other items of general interest to legislators.

PENSION SYSTEMS

**MEETING
20 NOVEMBER**

The next meeting of the Interim Study Committee on Public Retirement Systems is Thursday, November 20, 1980, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106 of the State Capitol.

During this working session, the Committee will discuss draft legislation providing an automatic cost-of-living increase for members of the Public Employees' Retirement, Police and Sheriff's, and Police Retirement Systems and for members of the Municipal Police Retirement System who have retired after July 1, 1974. The increase is based on a percentage increase of the Consumer Price Index applied to a portion of active employees' salary. The legislation also includes a provision deferring the benefit increase until three years after retirement. Another benefit based on social security coverage and provisions for funding the increase such as employer and employee contributions and supplemental sources.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

**NUMEROUS
MATTERS
CONSIDERED
OCTOBER 16**

The Administrative Committee met on October 16, 1980. The Committee heard testimony from representatives of the Montana Taxpayers' Association who testified to the desirability of the adoption of a rule by the Department of Public Instruction which would specify the manner in which calculations are determined in necessity for a property levy. An advisory reviewed recent action taken by the Montana Environmental Quality Council in carrying out investigation of the need for adoption of new air quality standards and voted to intervene in any local action challenging these standards. The Committee reviewed administrative rules published in Issues 15, 17 and 18 of the

1980 Montana Administrative Register and objected to certain rules drafted by the Board of Athletics purporting to regulate freeride crawls. Testimony was also presented during the Legislative Auditor regarding certain postal agency fees.

MONTANA SALARY COMMISSION

Annual salary for 1979-80 for the Governor was recommended by the Montana Salary Commission on November 14.

Other salaries recommended to the 47th Legislature were: Lieutenant Governor, \$84,000; Secretary of State, \$78,000; Attorney General, \$55,000; Superintendent of Public Instruction, \$38,000; State Auditor, \$50,000; Public Service Commission member, \$42,000; Board of Corrections, \$30,000; Chief Justice, \$62,500; Associate Justice, \$60,000; Clerk of Supreme Court, \$40,000; District Judge, \$57,000; Commissioner of Land and Livestock and Practices, \$25,000; State Tax Appeal Board member, \$20,000; chairmen, \$20,000; Legislators, \$100 per day salary for maximum of 90 days per session plus \$50 per day expenses for each day of legislative business.

Commission members participating were Chairman Milton Mitsopoulos, Assoluto, Wyoming; Elderly, Missoula; John Eyle, Great Falls; Arnold Klerdy, Helena; John Leary, Billings; Harry Evans, Billings; and Deborah Benson, Billings. Unable to participate was commission member Robert Rye, Bozeman, who was participating from surgery.

A committee composed of Chairman Mitsopoulos, Mrs. Leary, and Mr. Eyle met January, November 14, to complete the commission's formal report and recommendations.

GRAIN STUDY

GRAIN TRANSPORTATION STUDY AVAILABLE

The final study on the feasibility of transporting grain by railroads was prepared by the Department of Agricultural Economics at Montana State University. Under the final resolution number 10 of the last session, a report sent to the Legislative Council. If you would like to receive a copy of this report, please contact the Council, and a copy will be sent to you. Please indicate whether you want a printed copy or just a loan copy. Loans will be returned on your request basis.

OTHER REPORTS

Interim study report on grain in prepared and printed. Copies of report will be available for

caucus. After caucus you may obtain an order form on request from the Legislative Council. Reports can be picked up at the Council office or will be sent to you at your request.

LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

MEETING
OCTOBER 27

The Legislative Audit Committee met October 27, 1980, at 9:00 a.m. in Room 104 of the State Capitol.

The committee reviewed the financial/compliance audit reports on the Butte Vocational-Technical Center, Department of Revenue - Selected Taxes, Treasury Division*, Center for the Aged*, Swan River Youth Forest Camp*, Eastmont Human Services Center*, and 13 CETA audits*. (*Contract audits)

The next meeting of the Legislative Audit Committee will be November 19 and 20, 1980.

Copies of all reports are available from the Office of the Legislative Auditor, Room 135, State Capitol, telephone 449-3122.

LEGISLATIVE INTERIM CALENDAR
NOVEMBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1
2	3 SALARY COMMISSION ROOM 139	4	5 RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATORS RM. 139 9:00 am	6	7 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL RM 139	8 LEGISLATIVE IMPROVEMENT COAL TAX
9	10	11	12	13 FINANCE COMMITTEE RM 104	14 FINANCE COMMITTEE RM 104	15 REVENUE OVERSIGHT RM 139 9:30 am FINANCE COMMITTEE RM 104
16	17	18	19	20 RETIREMENT COMMITTEE RM 104 9:00am SELECT COMM. ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RM 139 2:00pm	21 CAUCUS COLONIAL INN 9:00 am	22 CAUCUS COLONIAL INN 9:00 a.m.
23	24 LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE RM 104	25	26	27	28	29

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